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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# INFORMATION REPORT

## REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 25 Aug 1954

SUBJECT Monchegorlag and Ust'vym'lag Labor Camps/  
the "Road of Socialism" Kolkhoz

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. /  
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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1. The Monchegorlag prison camp was located at Olen'ya Station 68-09 N - 33-15 E. This was approximately midway between Monchegorsk 67-54 N - 32-58 E and Murmansk. The main purpose of the camp was to provide labor for the nickel mines.
2. The camp was very overcrowded. [redacted] there were over 15,000 prisoners. Approximately 50% were Russians and the remainder Ukrainians, Belorussians, Poles, Jews, Finns, Latvians, Lithuanians, Georgians, Tadzhiks, Azerbaijani, Turkmen, Kazakhs, and others.
3. Monchegorlag consisted of 20 buildings, [see sketch, Enclosure (A)] all of wooden construction. All of the buildings had electricity (from Monchegorsk) but no running water. The water was brought into the buildings in barrels from a special well, controlled and guarded by the camp authorities.
4. The nickel mines in the Monche Mountains [sic - Malaya Sopcha, SW of Monchegorsk?] were approximately five to six kilometers from camp. The prisoners walked this distance daily. The shafts of the mine were very primitive and accidents occurred daily. The roads in the vicinity were very poor - a mixture of sand and clay. [redacted]
5. [redacted] the mines. Nickel ore was brought to the platform in wagonettes. These were pushed by six men over a narrow-gauge track. [redacted] loaded the nickel ore onto regular railroad cars. Many railroad cars of ore were then transported daily to Monchegorsk to the "Severo Nikel Kombinat" for further processing.

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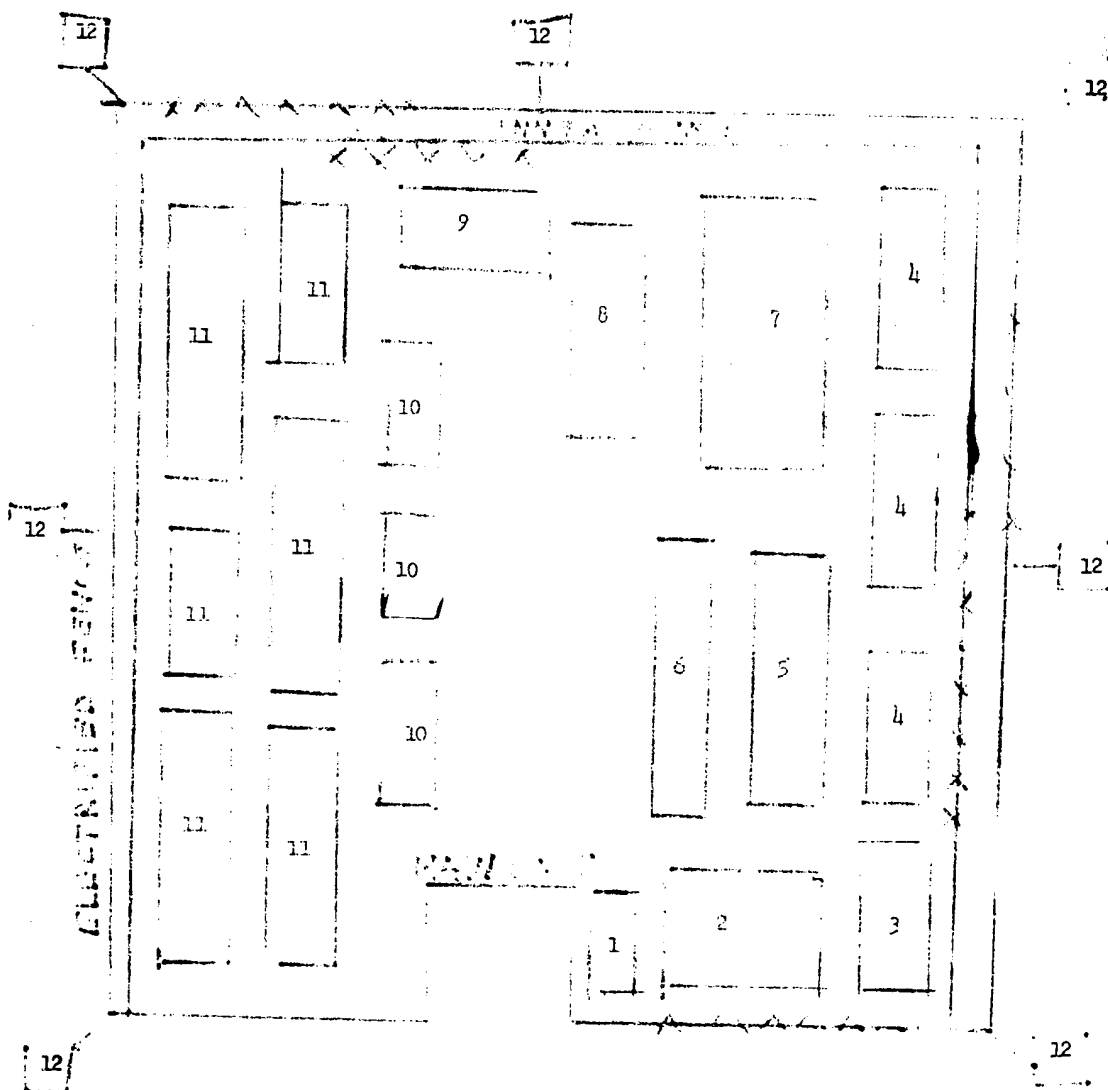
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ENCLOSURE (A)

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## MONCHEGORLAG PRISON LABOR CAMP

KARELO FINNISH SSR



1. GUARD HOUSE
2. PRISON HEADQUARTERS AND  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
3. WOMENS' PRISON
4. WOMENS' BARRACKS
5. WOMENS' WORK SHOP
6. FINANCE OFFICE

7. HOSPITAL
8. STEAM BATHS
9. PRISON FOR MEN
10. SMALL MENS' BARRACKS
11. LARGE MENS' BARRACKS
12. GUARD TOWERS

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6. The mines were supervised by two Soviet engineers, assisted by 10 engineers and technicians from among the prisoners. The head doctor was a Soviet military man [Inu] Stepanov. He had as his orderlies six to eight doctors from among the prisoners.

7. [redacted] prison camp, Ust'Vym'lag, which was located in northern Komi ASSR. This camp was similar to Monchegorlag except that it was smaller in size, and contained approximately 6000 men. Forty per cent of the prisoners were Russian, 30% Chinese and Japanese, and the remainder Ukrainians, Belorussians, Poles, Jews, and Germans.

8. This camp was set up for logging purposes. The principle trees felled were spruce, birch, and alder. There were no power tools. The trees were cleaned of branches and then cut into logs according to specifications set by the "brigadier", a foreman appointed by the camp director. The logs were loaded on trucks by hand with the help of chains and poles. The road from the camp to the woods was in bad condition. The ground was marshy, and had to be paved with logs before trucks and horse-drawn wagons could use it. Hundreds of thousands of logs lay rotting in the woods because they could not be transported out. [redacted] pig feed called "Silas". This was made from birch leaves and small branches. The logs that were removed, were taken to a railroad station west of camp.

9. [redacted]

the "Droga do Socializmu" (Road to Socialism) Kolchoz.

10. The kolchoz was located in the outskirts of the village. Pokrovka had approximately 5000 inhabitants. The kolchoz had approximately 1200 active members who tilled over 1500 hectares of good, drained soil. The principal crops were wheat, oats, barley, rye, millet, and potatoes. All agricultural machinery, plows, reapers, threshers etc, were obtained from the MTS. The MTS also provided small (ST2) and large (MIZ) tractors. After using the machinery during the season, the kolchoz returned the equipment to the MTS. There was always trained personnel at the station to repair the equipment for the following season.
11. A large church at the edge of the village was converted into a grain elevator. When the elevator was full, excess grain was piled on the ground. [redacted] the village chairman was Ivan Pavlovich Kasyukin and the kolchoz chairman was [Inu] Storozhev.
12. There were very few buildings at the kolchoz. The only wooden building was the kolchoz office. All others were of clay and straw. There were also the customary, cattle, horse, and sheep barns and pig sties. Pokrovka had a high school (Desyatiletka) and a Agrozoovet Technikum (Agronomy, Zootechnique, Veterinary Medicine School).

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